

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-23 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 2 is canceled, claim 3 is amended to depend from claim 1, and claims 1 and 7-11 are amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 2. The amendments to claim 1 are supported in the specification by at least page 20, line 1, to page 21, line 12, and by Figs. 7-8. The amendments to claims 7-11 are supported in the specification by at least page 30, line 8, to page 32, line 15, and by Figs. 16-18 and 27.

The Office Action objects to the drawings, asserting that Figs. 1-4B and 10A-10B should be designated as "prior art." By this Amendment, Figs. 1-4B and 10A-10B are amended to designate those drawings as "Related Art." It is respectfully requested that the objection be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-23 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Kurokawa (U.S. Patent No. 6,130,657). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Kurokawa fails to disclose a display driver circuit having a data mask control circuit that generates a data mask control signal based on a data enable signal output from a shift register block, as originally recited in claim 2 and presently recited in independent claims 1 and 7-11. The Office Action at page 4 asserts that Kurokawa's CAR1 and CAR2 are each signal outputs from a shift register block (shift register circuit 301). However, Kurokawa at Figs. 1 and 3 shows that the Kurokawa circuit does not use an output from shift register circuit 301. The only reference to CAR1 and CAR2 in Kurokawa (at col. 2, lines 16-20) discloses that the EIO1 and EIO2 circuits output signals CAR1 and CAR2 to shift register circuit 301. Kurokawa does not disclose that signals CAR1 and CAR2 are an output from shift register block 301, or that a data mask control signal is based on an output from a shift register block.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:
Replacement Sheets (Figs. 1-4B and 10A-10B)

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<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement drawing sheets makes changes to Figs. 1-4B and 10A-10B and replaces the original sheets with Figs. 1-4B and 10A-10B.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets